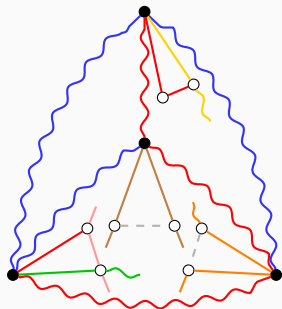


Gallai's Path Decomposition in Planar Graphs

PhD defense of Alexandre Blanché

December 13, 2021



Advisors:

Marthe Bonamy, Nicolas Bonichon

Under examination of:

Stéphane Bessy Reviewer

Fábio Botler Invited Member

Nadia Brauner Examiner

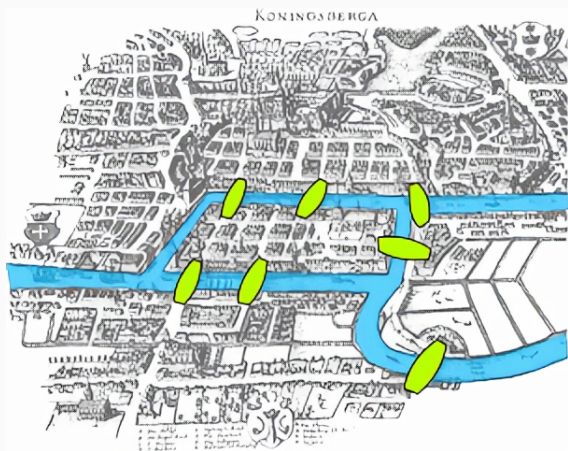
Paul Dorbec Reviewer

Arnaud Pêcher Examiner

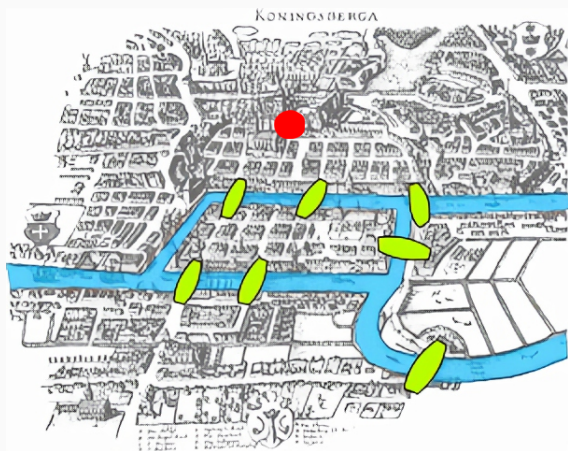
Context of Gallai's conjecture

(1736-1968)

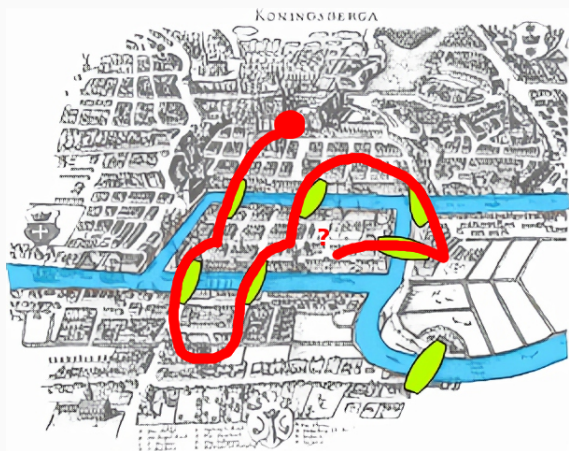
Euler (1736): Königsberg Bridge Problem



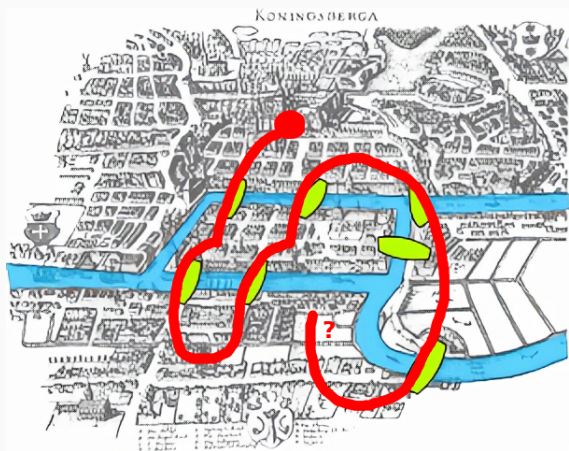
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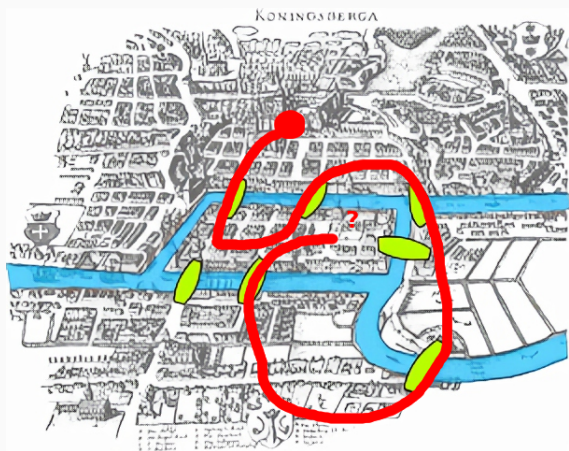
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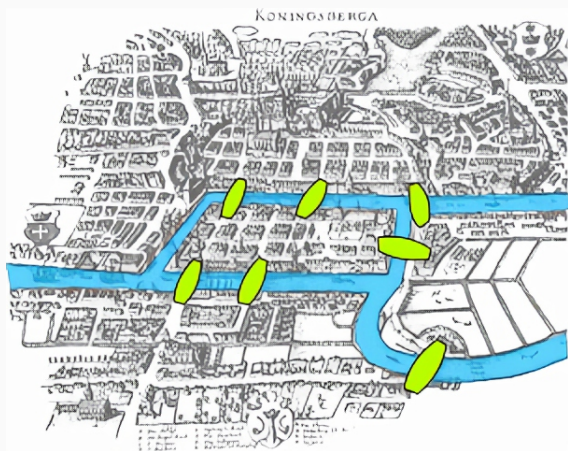
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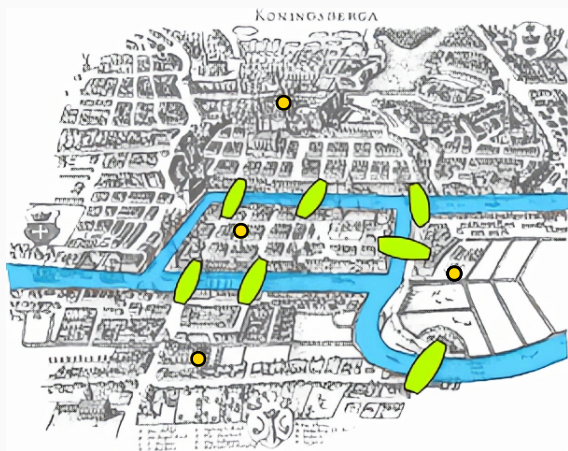
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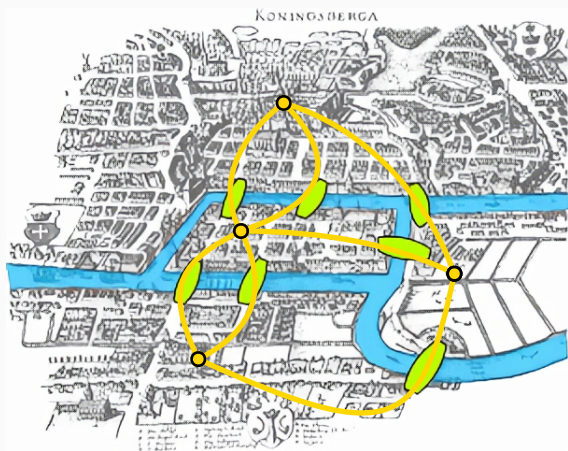
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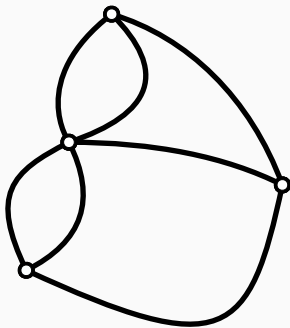
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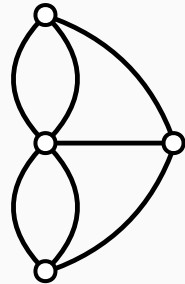
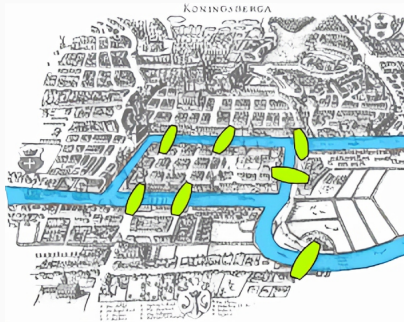
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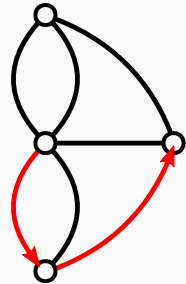
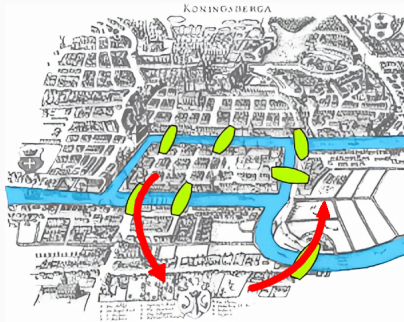
Euler (1736): *Königsberg Bridge Problem*



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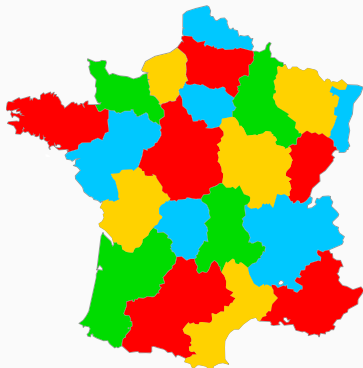
Euler (1736): Königsberg Bridge Problem



Four-Color Problem

Guthrie, De Morgan (1852)

Can we color the regions of a map with 4 colors, such that two regions that share a border have a different color?

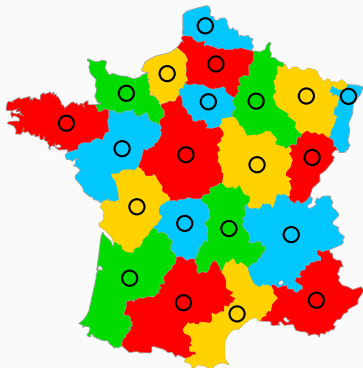


Proved in 1977, as the **Four-color theorem** [Appel, Haken, 1977]

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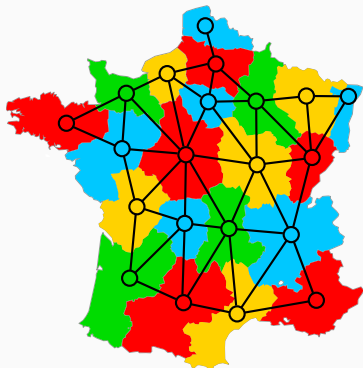


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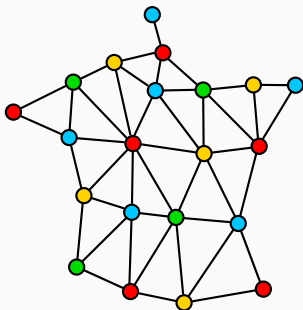


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Four-Color Problem

Four-Color Problem

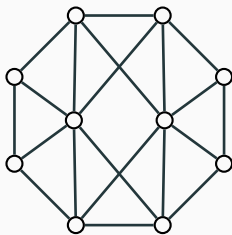
Can we color the **vertices** of a **planar graph** with 4 colors, such that adjacent vertices receive different colors?



Proved in 1977, as the **Four-color theorem** [Appel, Haken, 1977]

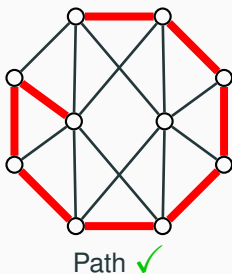
Path decomposition

Path decomposition: a **partition** of the edges into paths



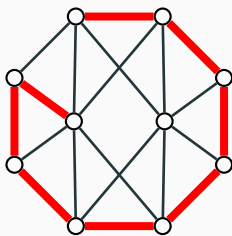
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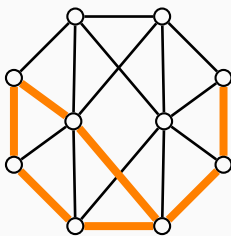


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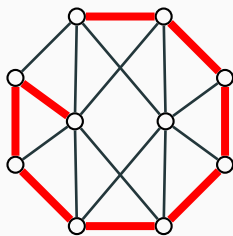
Path ✓



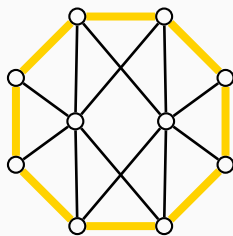
Not a path ✗

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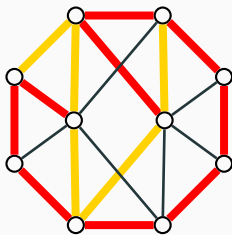
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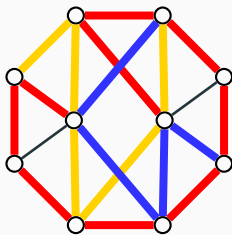
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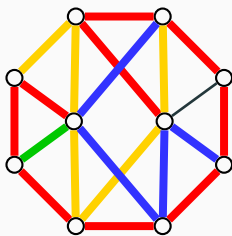
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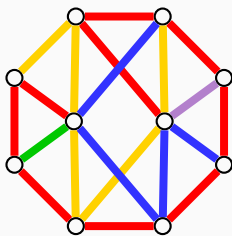
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Path decomposition

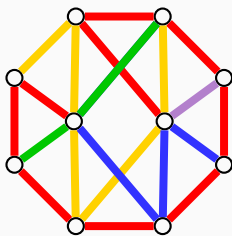
Path decomposition: a **partition** of the edges into paths



5 colors

Path decomposition

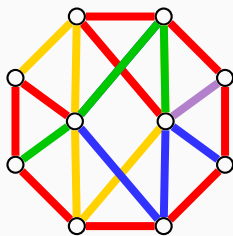
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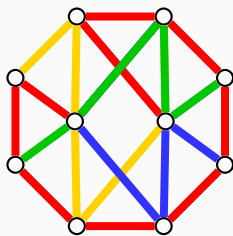
Path decomposition: a **partition** of the edges into paths



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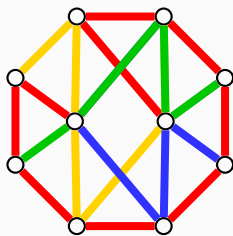
Path decomposition: a **partition** of the edges into paths



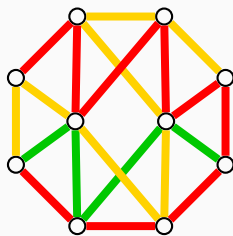
4 colors

Path decomposition

Path decomposition: a partition of the edges into paths

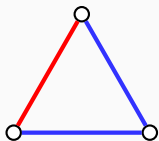


4 colors

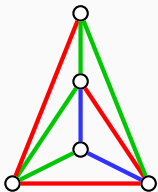
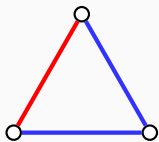


3 colors

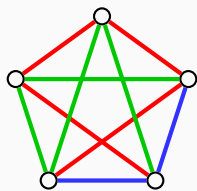
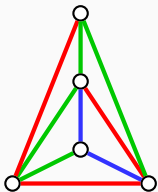
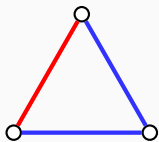
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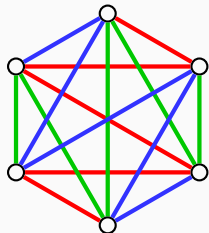
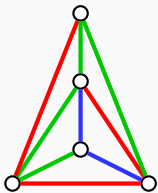
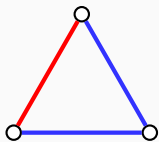
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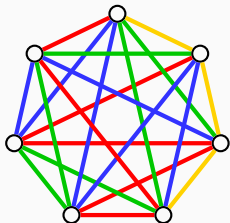
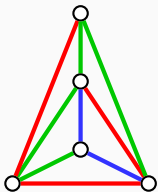
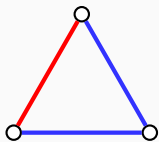
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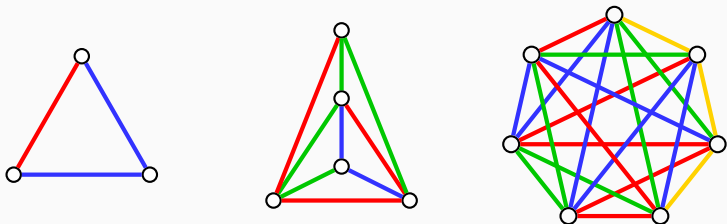
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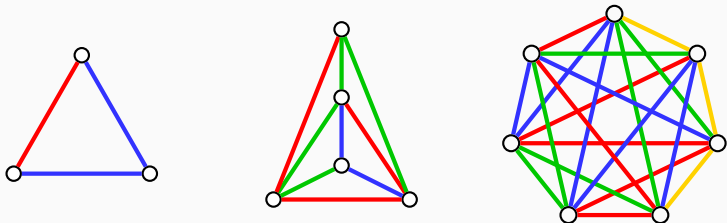
Path decomposition



Conjecture (Gallai, 1968)

An n -vertex connected graph has a decomposition into $\leq \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil$ **paths**.

Path decomposition



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Theorem [B., Bonamy, Bonichon, 2021+]

Gallai's conjecture is true on **planar** graphs.

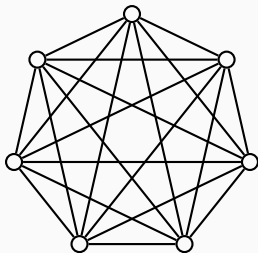
Related conjectures

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An n -vertex **even** graph has a decomposition into $\leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$ **cycles**.



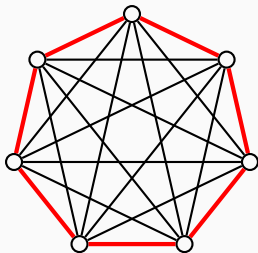
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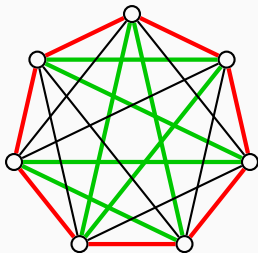
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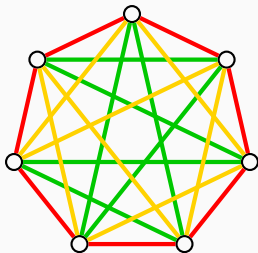
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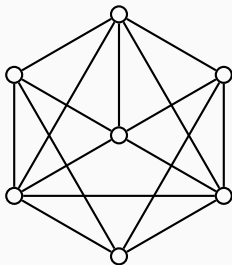
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Lovász's initial result

Theorem [Lovász, 1968]

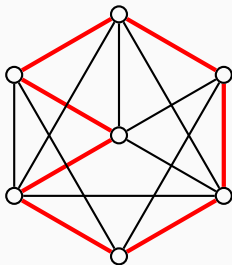
An n -vertex graph has a decomposition into $\leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ paths and cycles.



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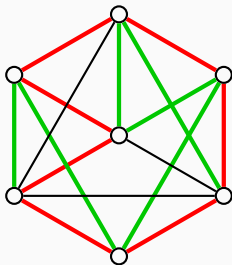
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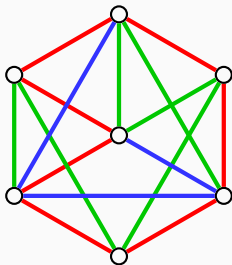
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Partial results on Gallai's conjecture

(1968-2021)

Theorems

Any connected graph G has a decomposition into at most $\mathcal{P}(G)$ paths.

$|\text{odd}|, |\text{even}|$: number of vertices of odd, even degree of G

- **[Lovász, 1968]:** $\mathcal{P}(G) \leq \frac{|\text{odd}|}{2} + |\text{even}| - 1$

- **[Donald, 1980]:** $\mathcal{P}(G) \leq \frac{|\text{odd}|}{2} + \left\lfloor \frac{3}{4} |\text{even}| \right\rfloor$

- **[Yan, 1998], [Dean, Kouider, 2000]:**

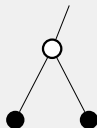
$$\mathcal{P}(G) \leq \frac{|\text{odd}|}{2} + \left\lfloor \frac{2}{3} |\text{even}| \right\rfloor$$

Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

Reducibility lemma

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on trees **does not contain** a configuration:

- A : 2 leaves with a common parent



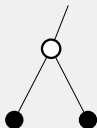
A

Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

Reducibility lemma

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- *A*: 2 leaves with a common parent
- *B*: 1 leaf with a parent of degree 2



A



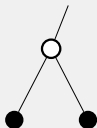
B

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A



B

Unavoidability lemma

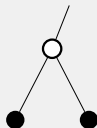
All trees with $n \geq 3$ vertices **contain** a configuration *A* or *B*.

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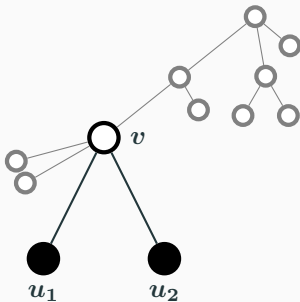
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Contradiction \Rightarrow there is no counterexample

Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

In a **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on trees:

- Configuration A is impossible:

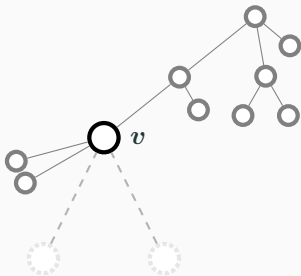


Configuration A

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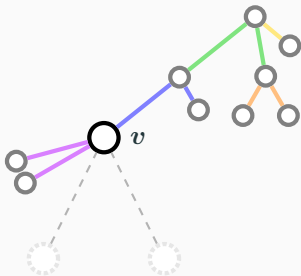


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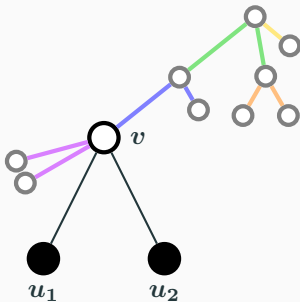


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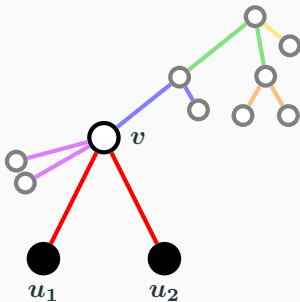


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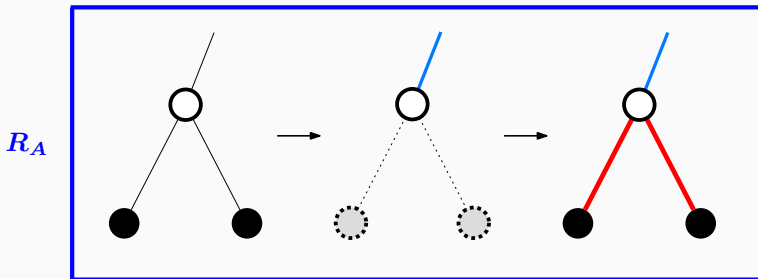


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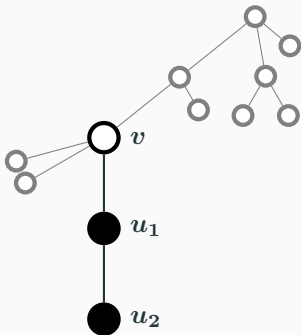


Configuration A

Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

In a **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on trees:

- Configuration B is impossible:

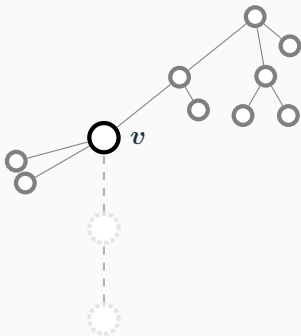


Configuration B

Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

In a **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on trees:

- Configuration B is impossible:

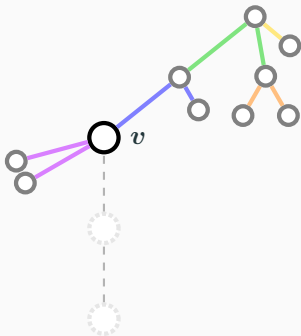


Configuration B

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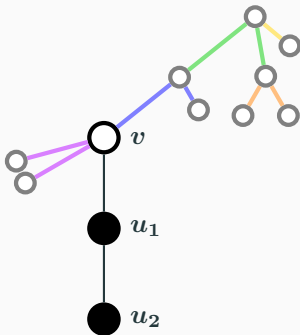


Configuration B

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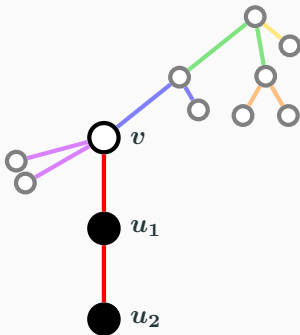


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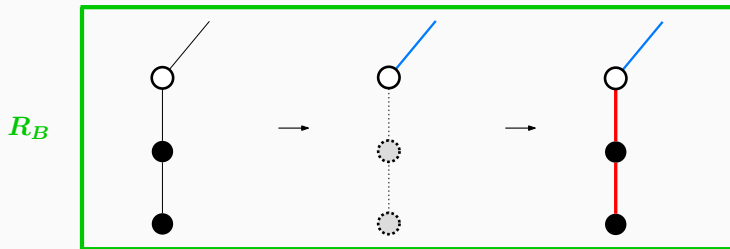
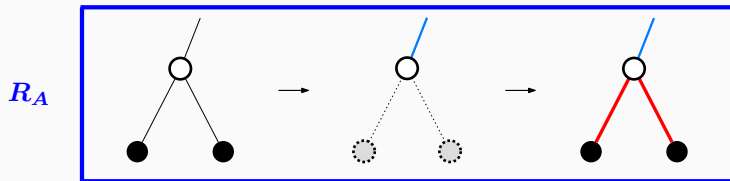
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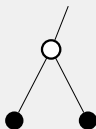


Example: Gallai's conjecture holds on trees

Reducibility lemma

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on trees **does not contain** a configuration:

- *A*: 2 leaves with a common parent
- *B*: 1 leaf with a parent of degree 2



A



B

Unavoidability lemma

All trees with $n \geq 3$ vertices **contain** a configuration *A* or *B*.

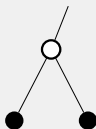
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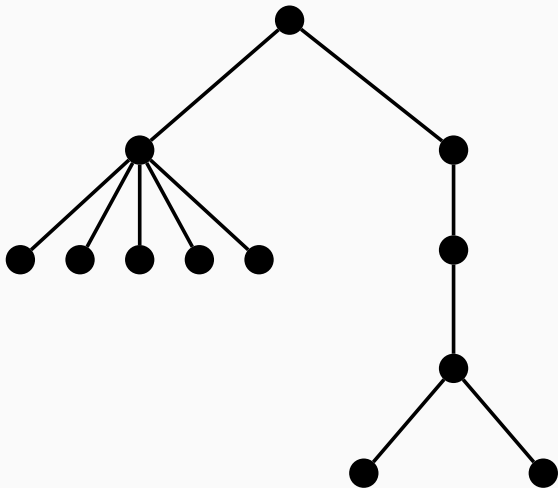
B

Unavoidability lemma easy ✓

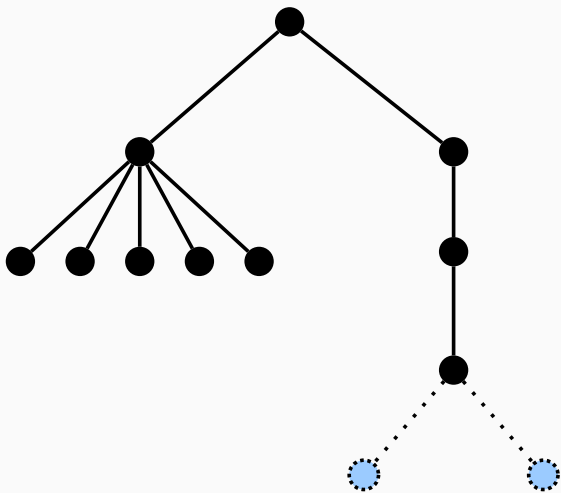
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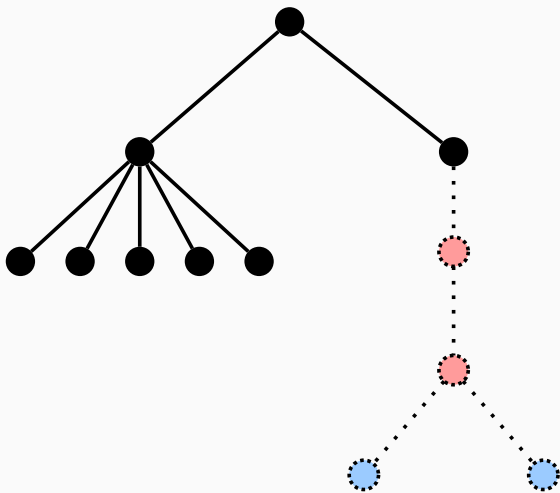
Algorithm for the trees



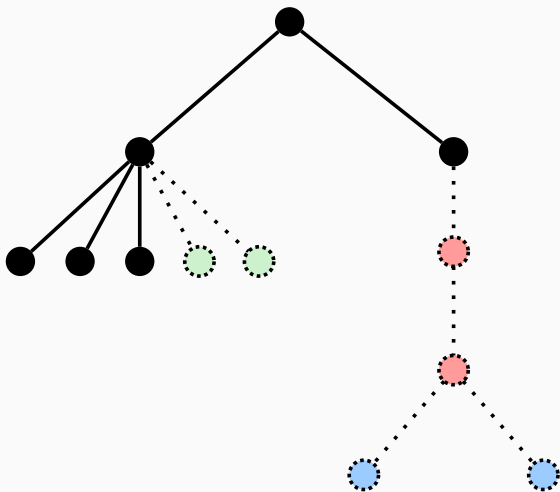
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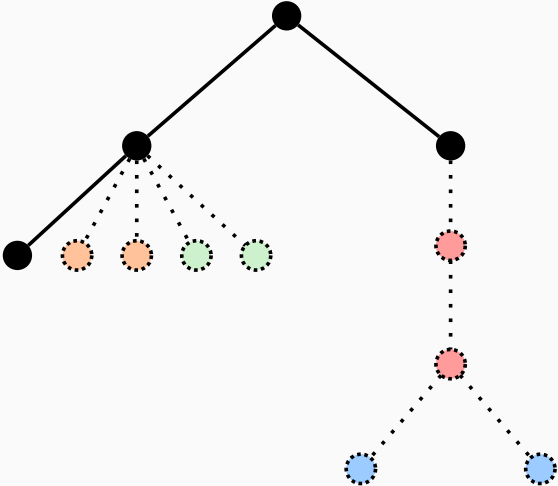
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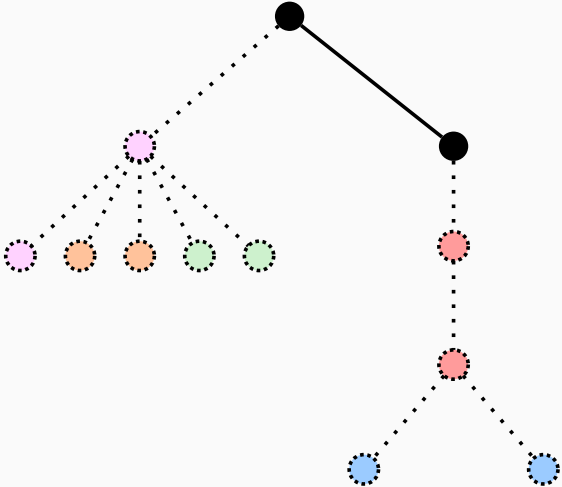
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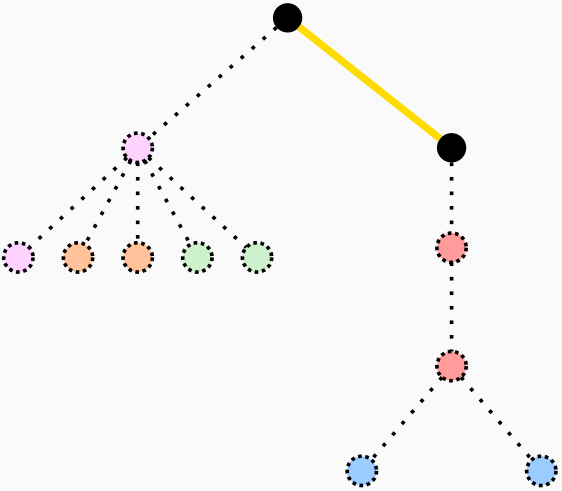
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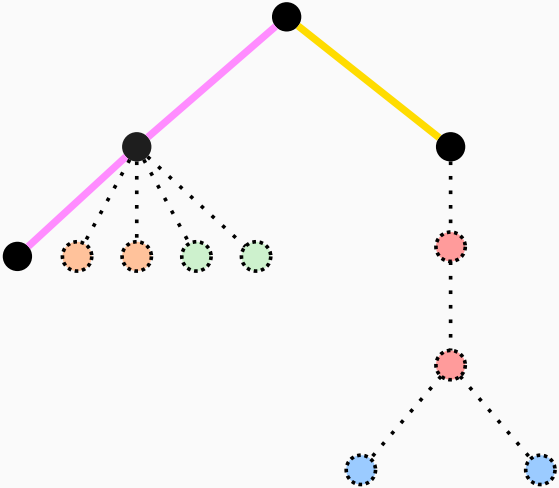
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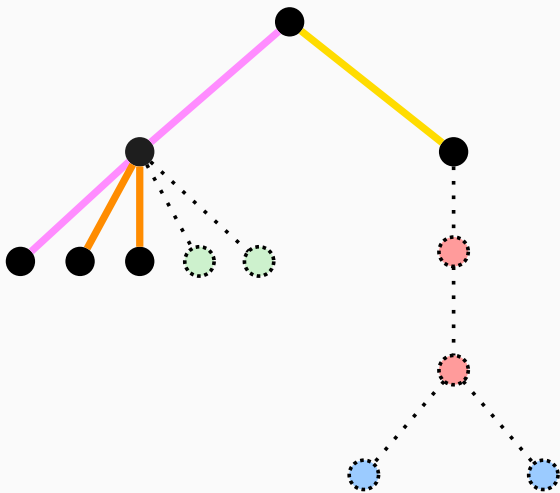
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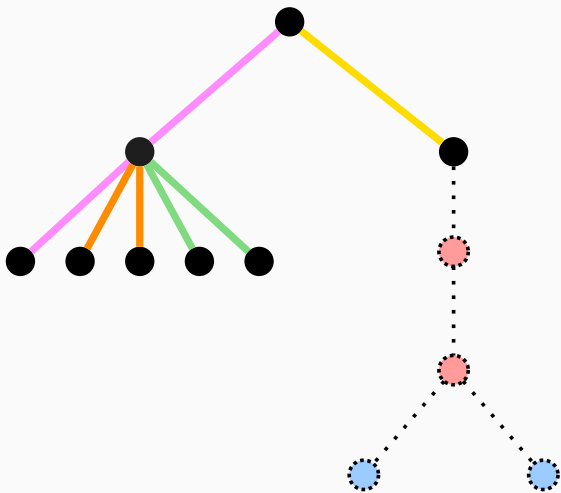
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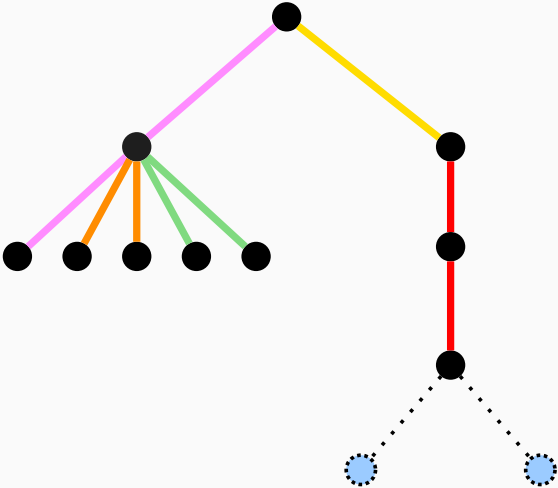
Algorithm for the trees



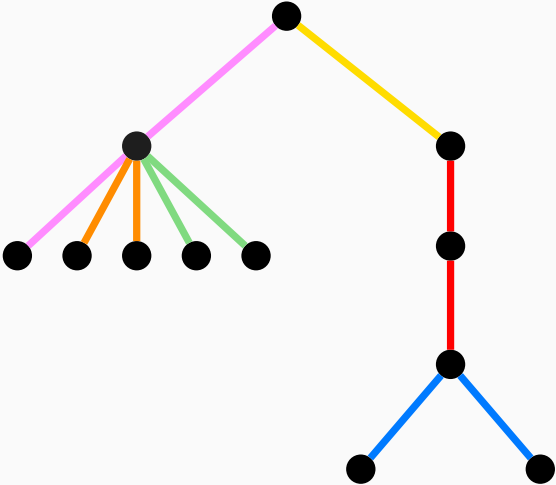
Algorithm for the trees



Algorithm for the trees



Algorithm for the trees



Graph classes on which Gallai's conjecture holds

Even subgraph (G_{even} = graph induced by vertices of even degree)

- **[Lovász, 1968]**: $|G_{\text{even}}| \leq 1$
- **[Favaron, Kouider, 1988]**: Each vertex has degree 2 or 4
- **[Pyber, 1996]**: G_{even} is a forest
- **[Fan, 2005]**: Each block of G_{even} is triangle-free with maximum degree ≤ 3

Maximum degree Δ

- **[Bonamy, Perrett, 2016]**: $\Delta \leq 5$
- **[Chu, Fan, Liu, 2021]**: $\Delta = 6$ when there is no 6 – 6 edge

Sparse graphs

- **[Botler, Sambinelli, Coelho, Lee, 2017]**: Treewidth ≤ 3
- **[Botler, Jiménez, Sambinelli, 2018]**: Triangle-free planar graphs

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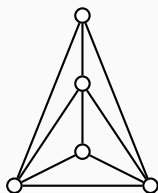
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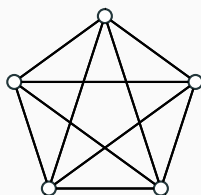
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Stronger conjecture

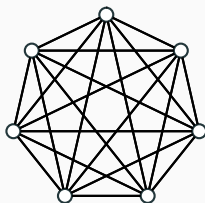
Natural obstructions to the bound $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$:



K_5^-



K_5



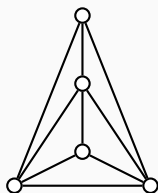
K_7

...

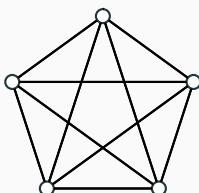
Odd semi-cliques: cliques on $2k + 1$ vertices, delete $\leq k - 1$ edges
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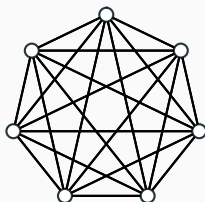
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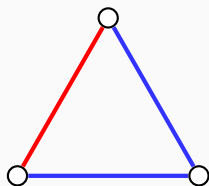
Strong Gallai conjecture [Bonamy, Perrett, 2016]

Every n -vertex connected graph either has a decomposition into $\leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ paths or is an odd semi-clique.

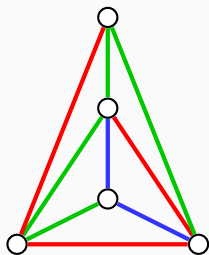
Our contribution

Theorem [B., Bonamy, Bonichon, 2021+]

Every n -vertex connected **planar** graph, different from K_3 and K_5^- , can be decomposed into $\leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ paths.



K_3

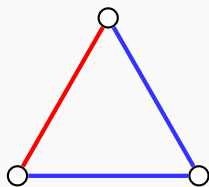


K_5^-

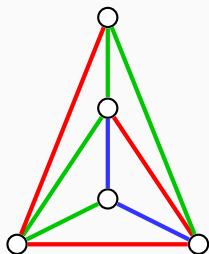
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K_3



K_5^-

Corollary

Gallai's conjecture holds on planar graphs.

The proof on planar graphs

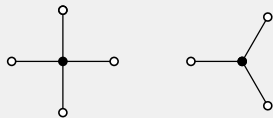
(2021+)

Outline of the proof

Main lemma (*reducibility*)

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on planar graphs **does not contain** a configuration:

- \mathcal{C}_I : 2 vertices of degree ≤ 4



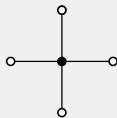
\mathcal{C}_I

Outline of the proof

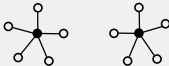
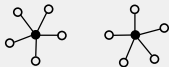
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\mathcal{C}_I



\mathcal{C}_{II}

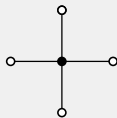
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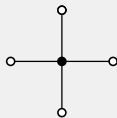
All planar graphs on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contain** a configuration \mathcal{C}_I or \mathcal{C}_{II} .

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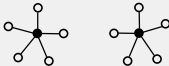
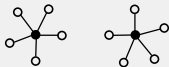
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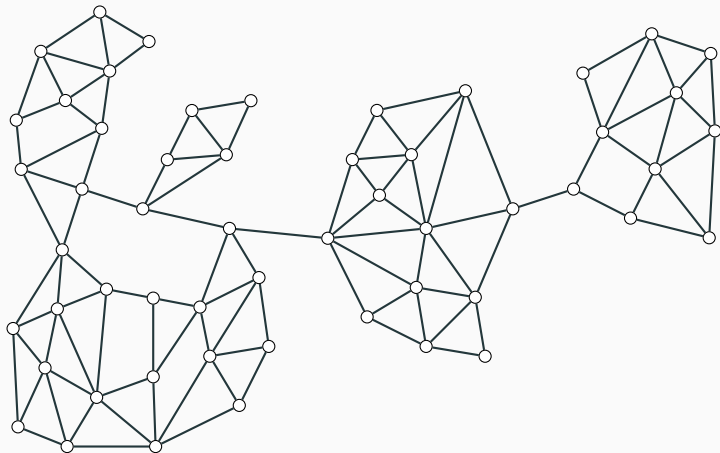
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Proof on planar graphs

Part I: \mathcal{C}_I configurations

General idea

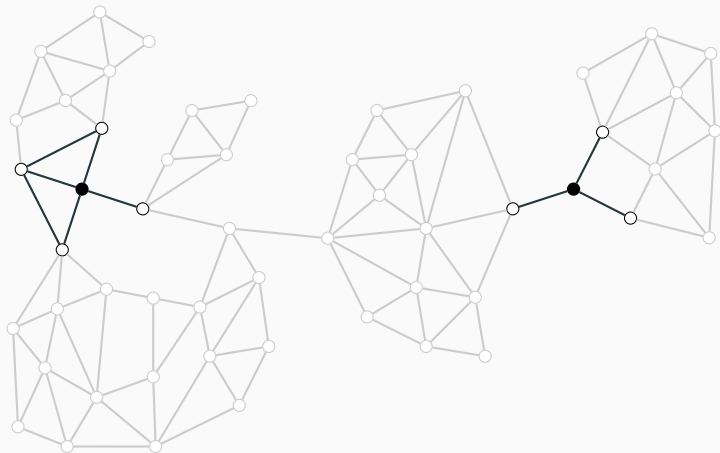
$G \equiv$ **minimum counterexample**, n vertices



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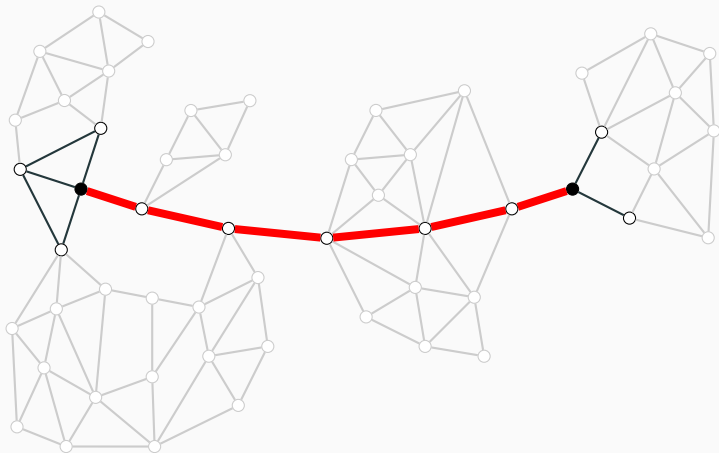
u_1, u_2 *special vertices*



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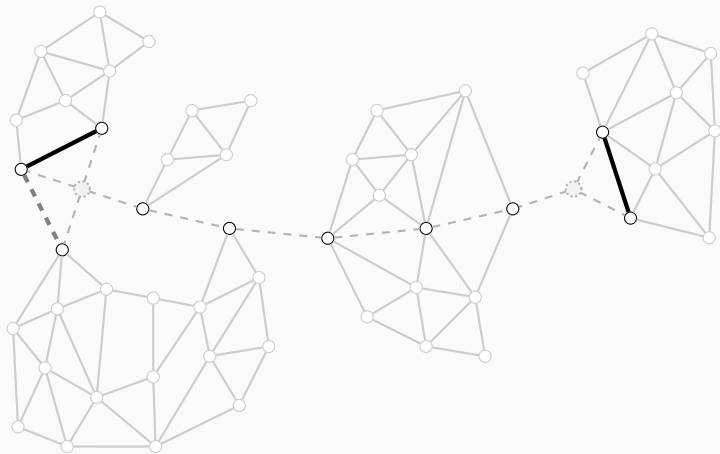
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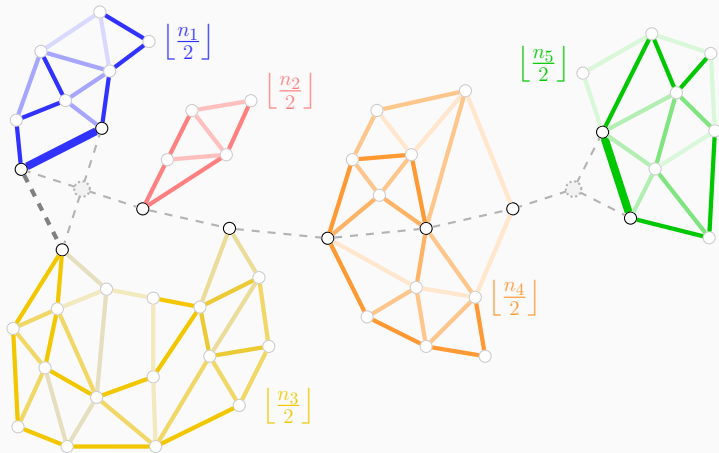
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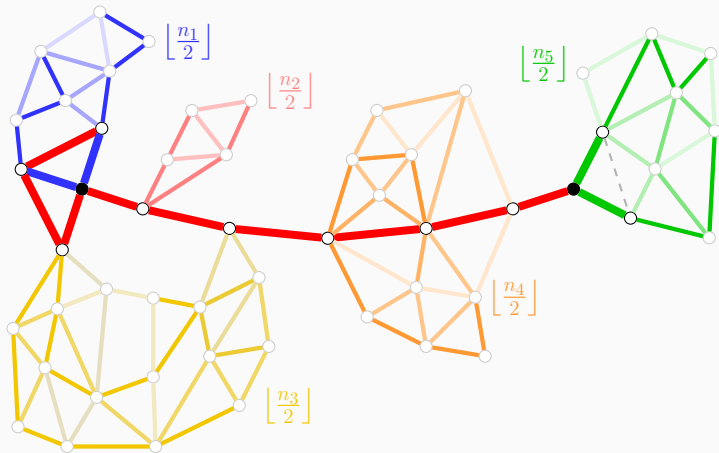
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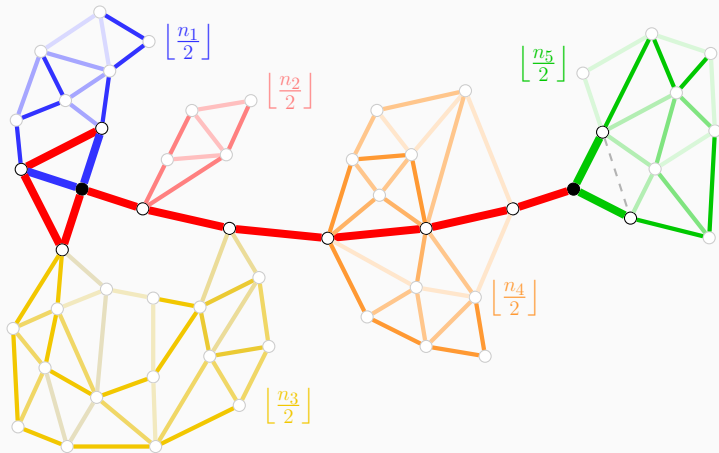
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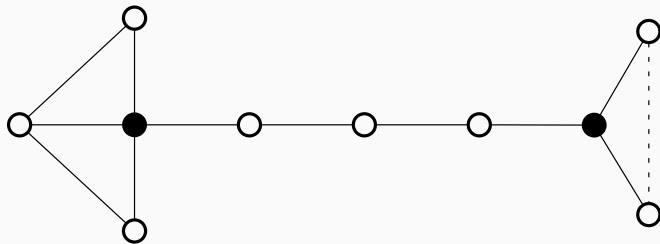
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$$\text{Colors used: } 1 + \left\lfloor \frac{n_1}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n_2}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n_3}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n_4}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n_5}{2} \right\rfloor \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$$

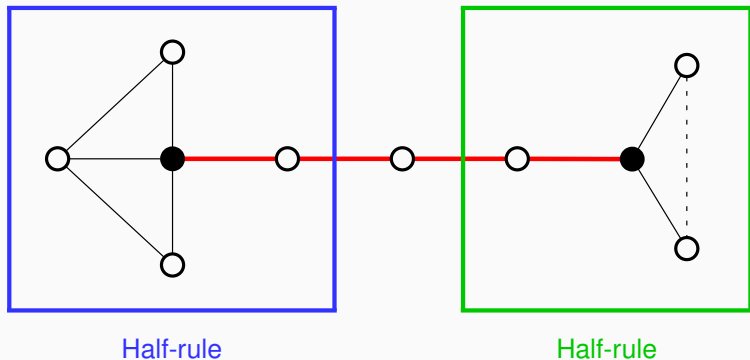
C_I reduction

When the two special vertices are at distance ≥ 3 :



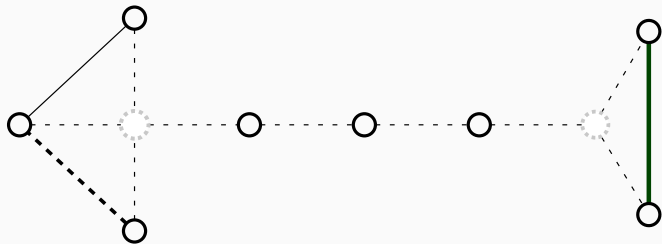
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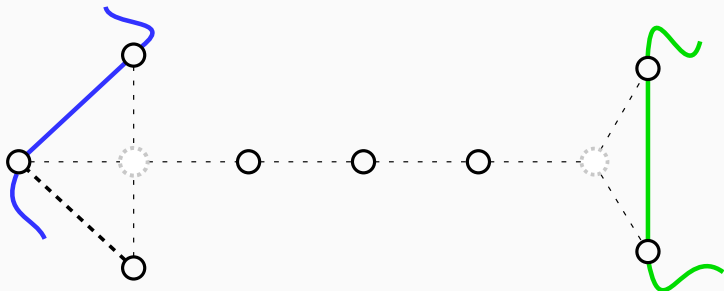
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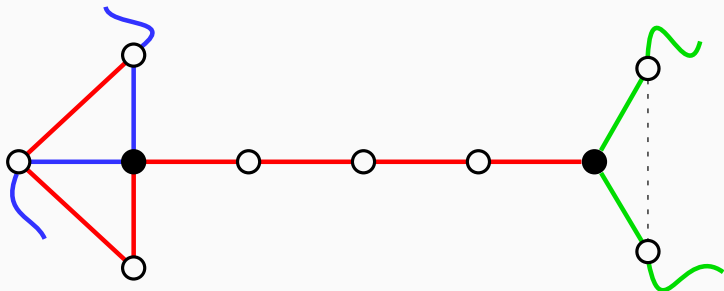
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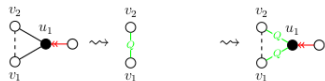
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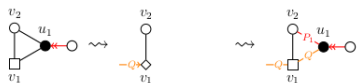
All the half-rules



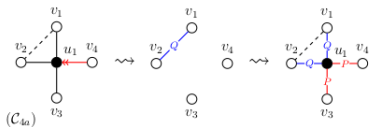
(\mathcal{C}_{EXT})



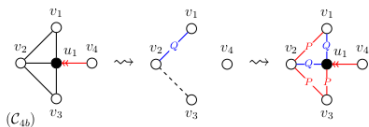
(\mathcal{C}_V)



(\mathcal{C}_{Ne})



(\mathcal{C}_{4a})

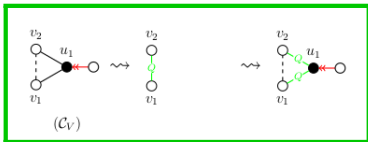


(\mathcal{C}_{4b})

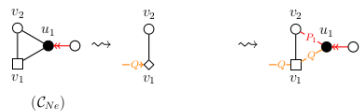
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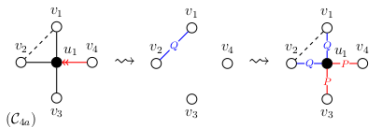
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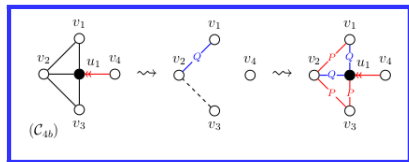
(C_V)



(C_{Ne})



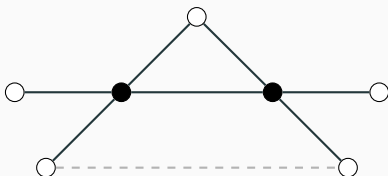
(C_{4a})



(C_{4b})

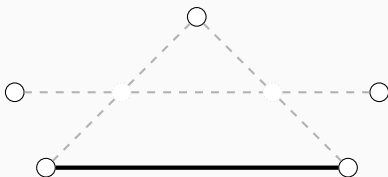
C_I configurations

When the two special vertices are at distance ≤ 2 :



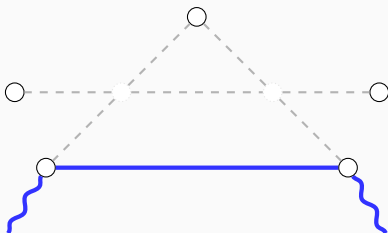
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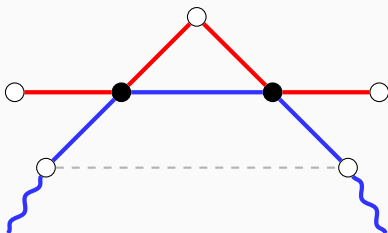
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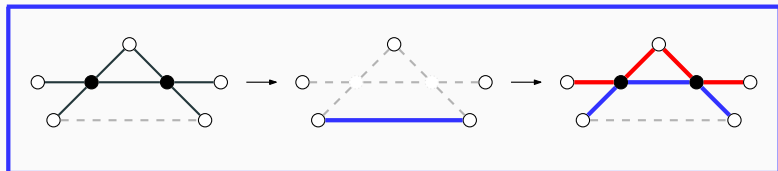
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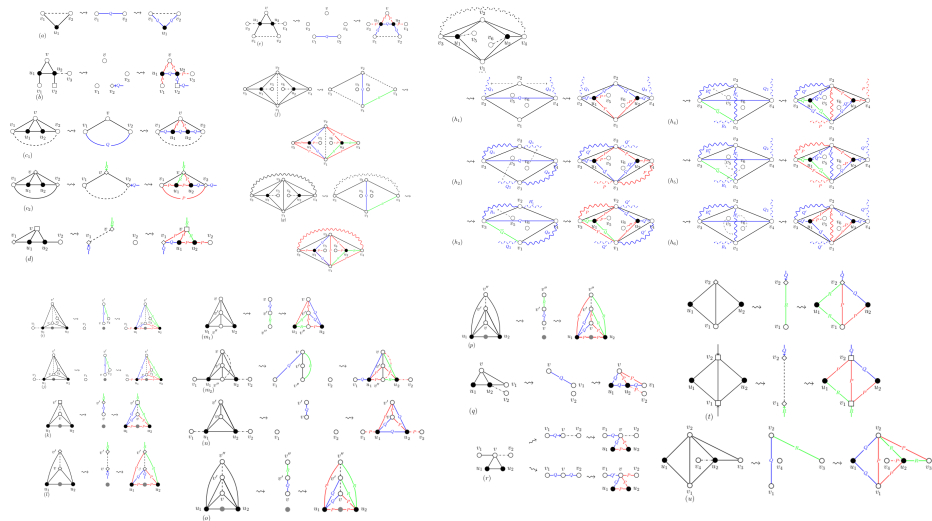


C_I configurations

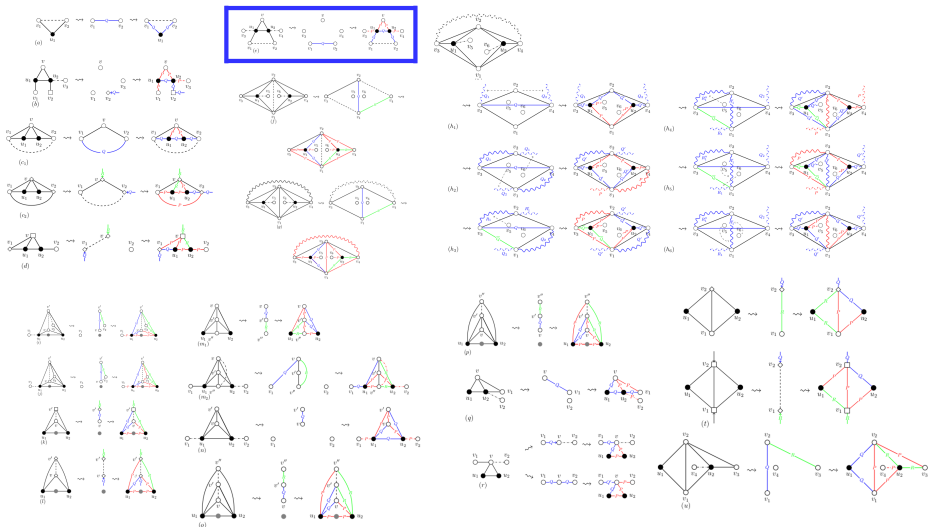
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All the full-rules



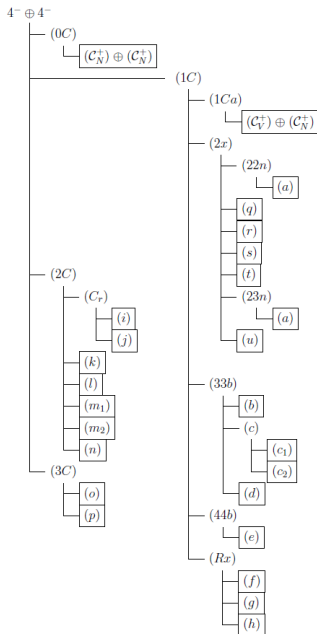
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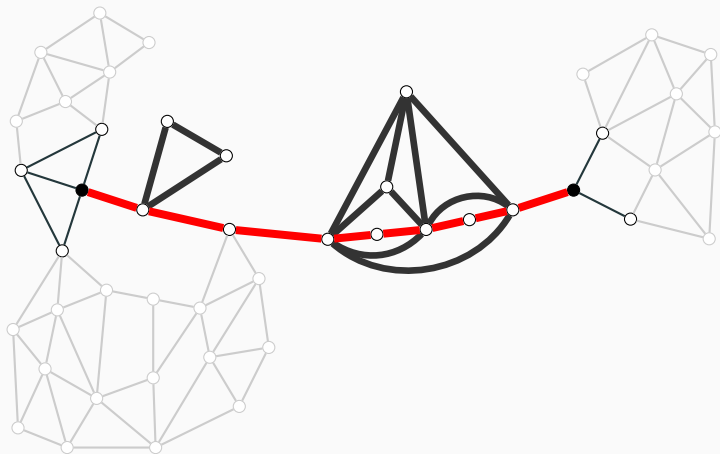
These rules cover all cases

Lemma

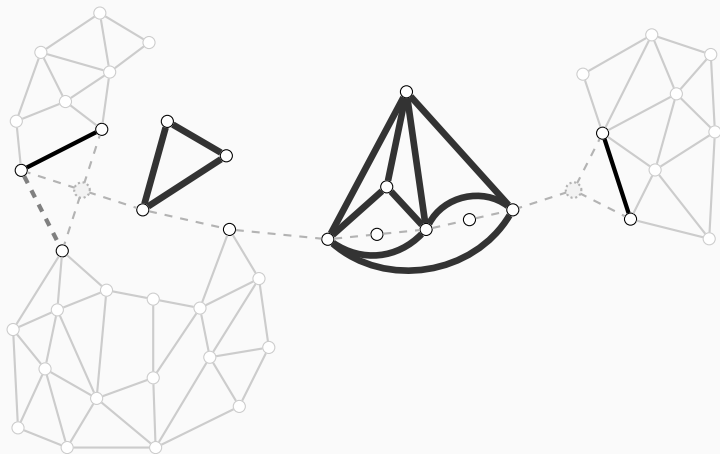
Any C_I configuration can be treated by one of the rules.



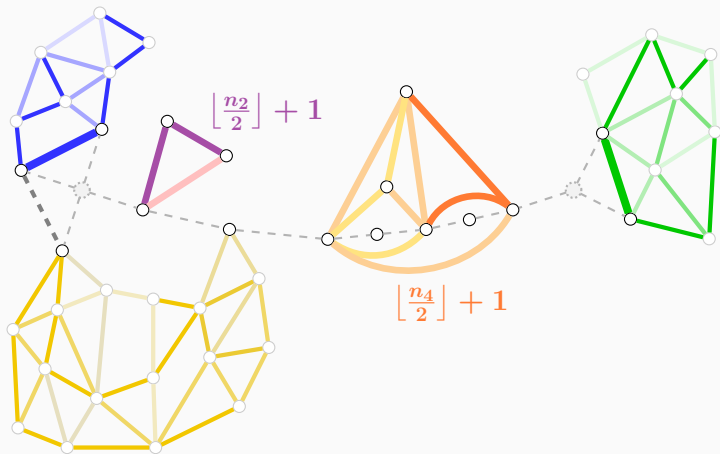
K_3/K_5^- strategy



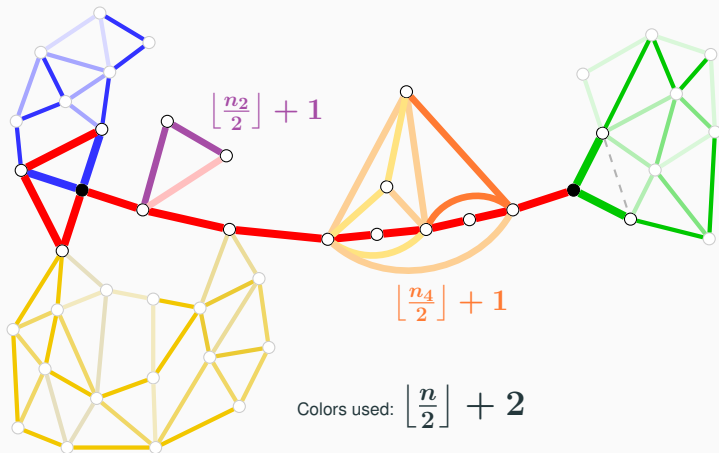
K_3/K_5^- strategy



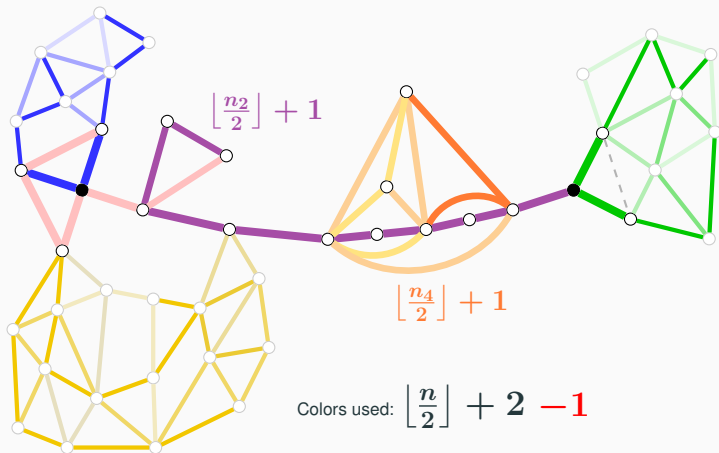
K_3/K_5^- strategy



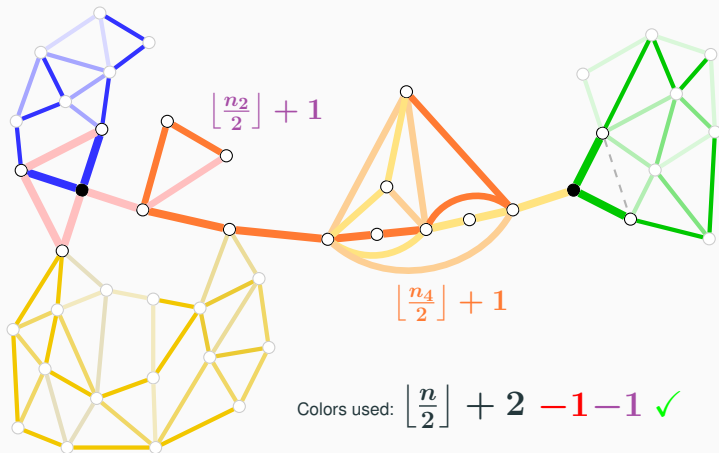
K_3/K_5^- strategy



K_3/K_5^- strategy

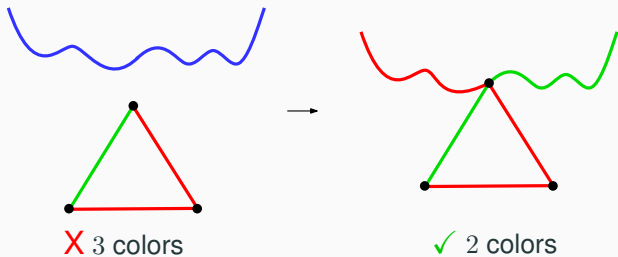


K_3/K_5^- strategy



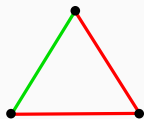
K_3/K_5^- strategy

Combining K_3 and K_5^- components with a path of the decomposition

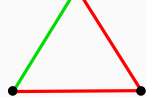


K_3/K_5^- strategy

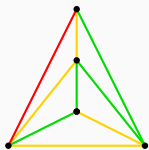
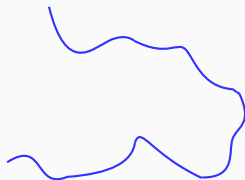
Combining K_3 and K_5^- components with a path of the decomposition



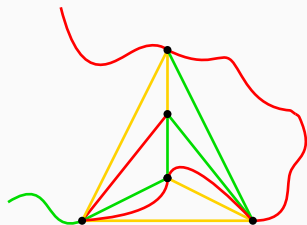
X 3 colors



✓ 2 colors



X 4 colors



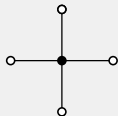
✓ 3 colors

Outline of the proof

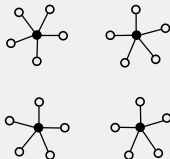
Main lemma (*reducibility*)

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on planar graphs **does not contain** a configuration:

- C_I : 2 vertices of degree ≤ 4 ✓
- C_{II} : 4 vertices of degree 5 (with additional connectivity requirements)



C_I



C_{II}

Final lemma (*unavoidability*)

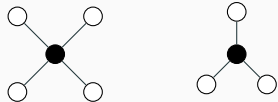
All planar graphs on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contain** a configuration C_I or C_{II} .

Proof on planar graphs

Part II: \mathcal{C}_{II} configurations

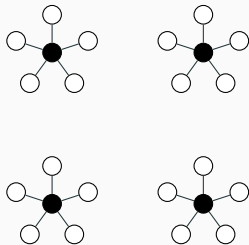
Adapting the method to C_{II} configurations

C_I configurations



2 special vertices of degree ≤ 4

C_{II} configurations



4 special vertices of degree 5

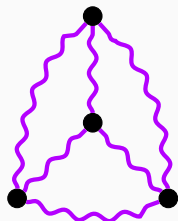
Adapting the method to C_{II} configurations

C_I configurations

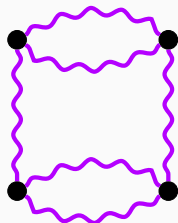


A (shortest) path

C_{II} configurations



K_4 -subdivision

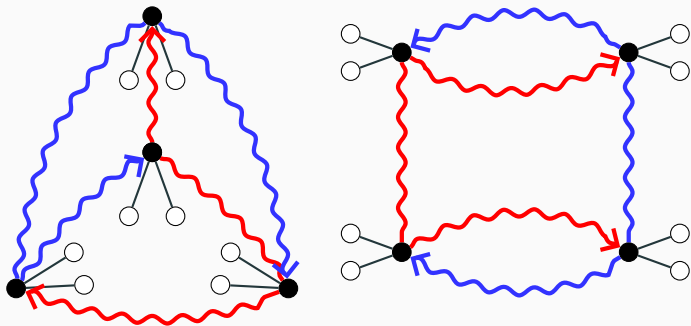


C_{4+} -subdivision

Subdivisions

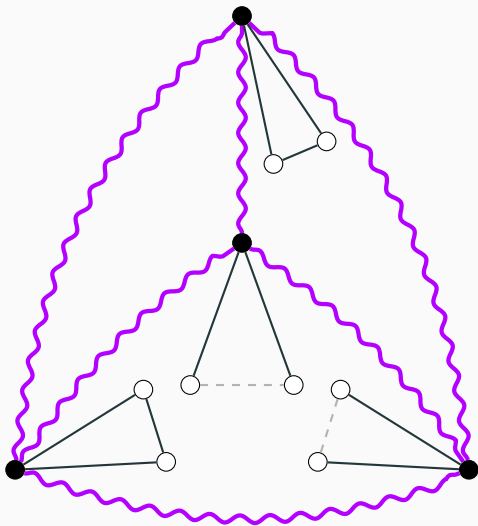
Theorem [Yu, 1998]

Under certain connectivity conditions*, a planar graph contains a K_4 -subdivision or a C_{4+} -subdivision rooted on 4 given vertices.

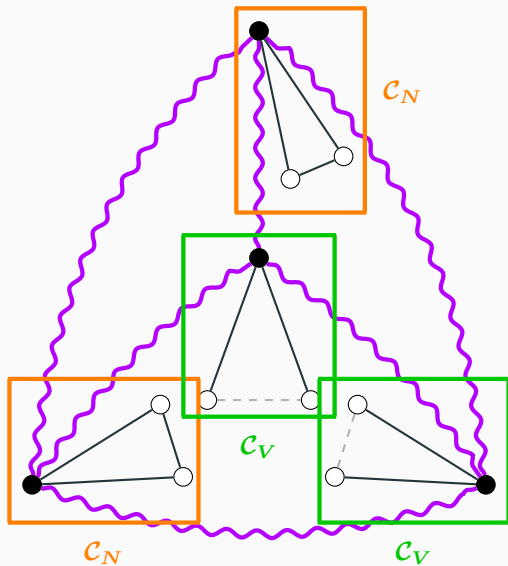


- Decomposable into 2 paths
- One end of path on each special vertex

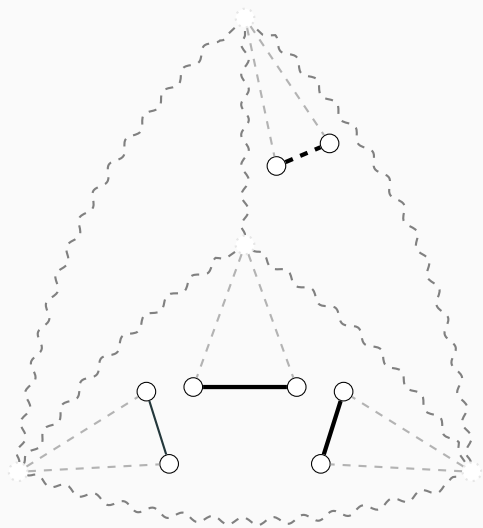
* No 3-cut separates two special vertices



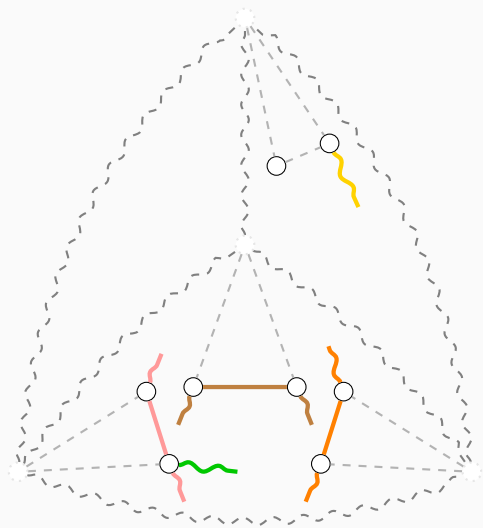
C_{II} reduction

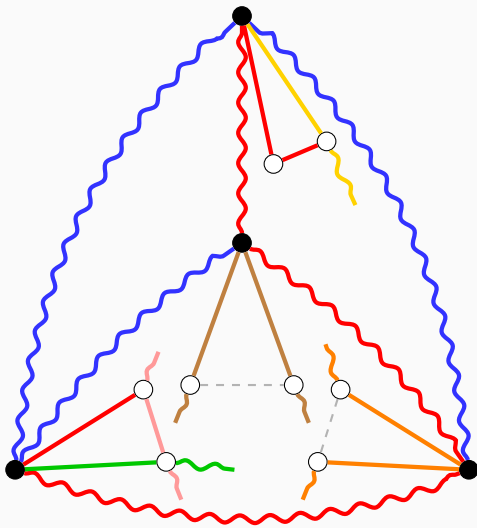


C_{II} reduction



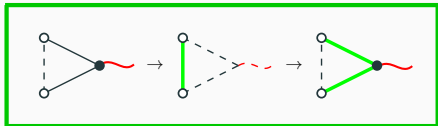
C_{II} reduction



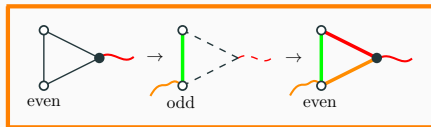


Patterns

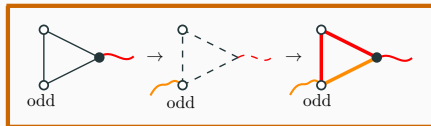
Examples of **patterns**



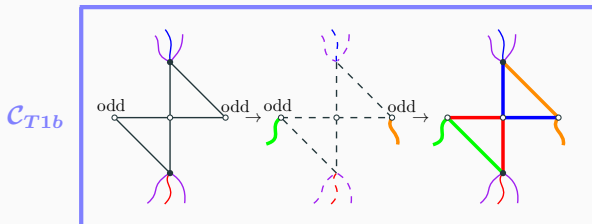
C_V



C_{Ne}

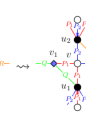
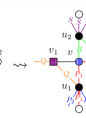
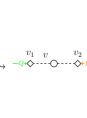
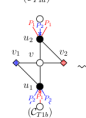
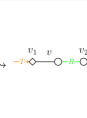
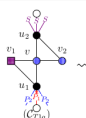
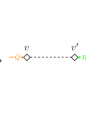
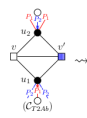
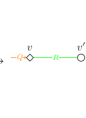
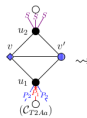
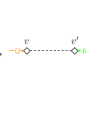
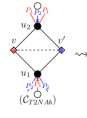
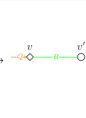
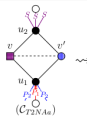
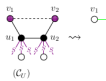


C_{No}

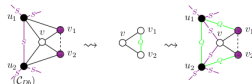
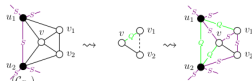
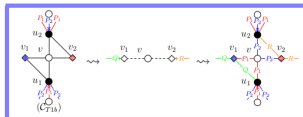
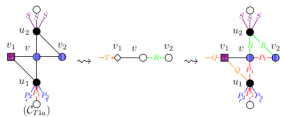
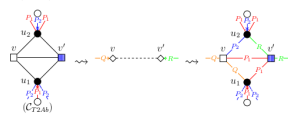
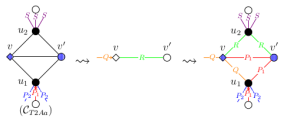
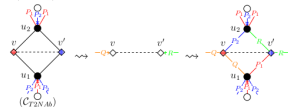
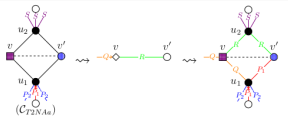
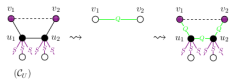
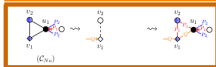
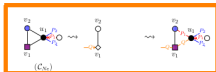
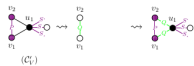
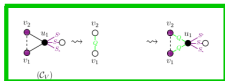


C_{T1b}

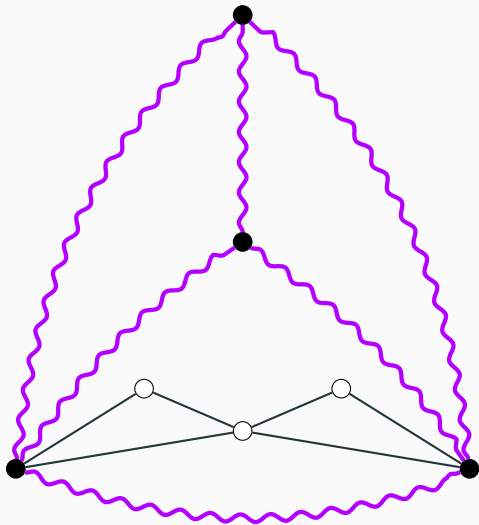
All the patterns



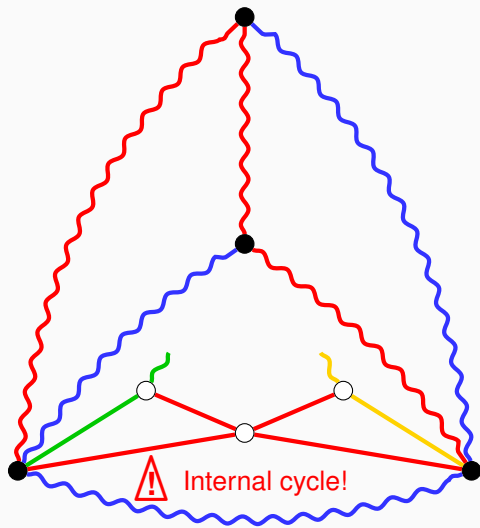
All the patterns



Things that can go wrong

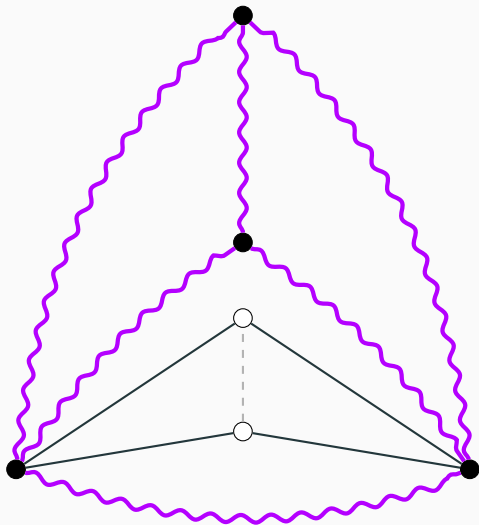


Things that can go wrong



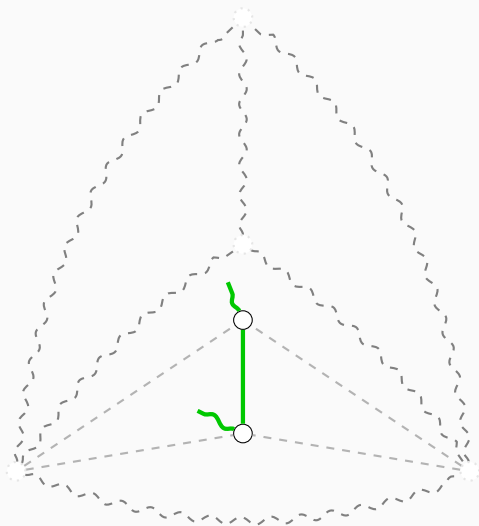
“Close problem”

Things that can go wrong



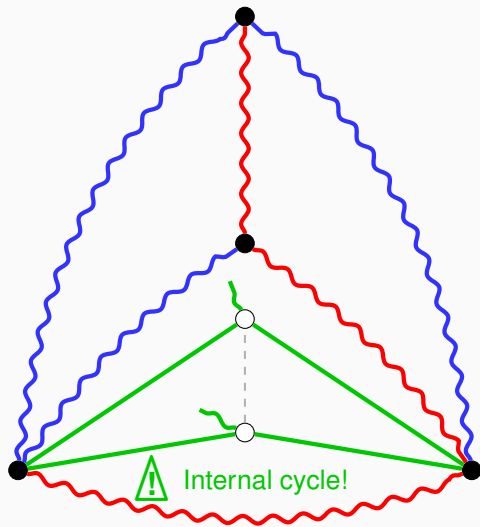
“Close problem”

Things that can go wrong



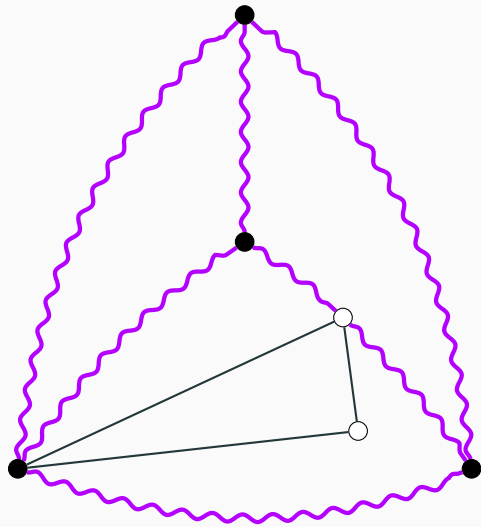
“Close problem”

Things that can go wrong

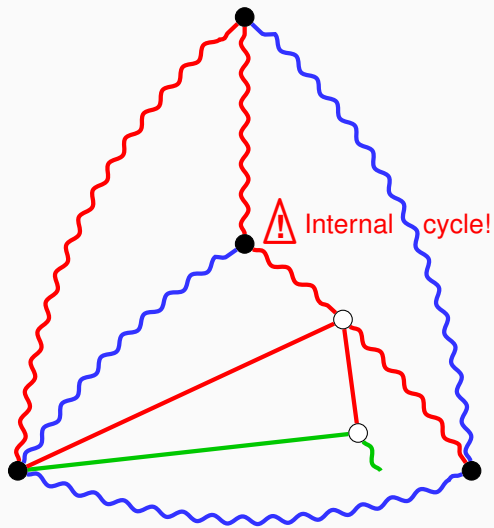


“Close problem”

Things that can go wrong



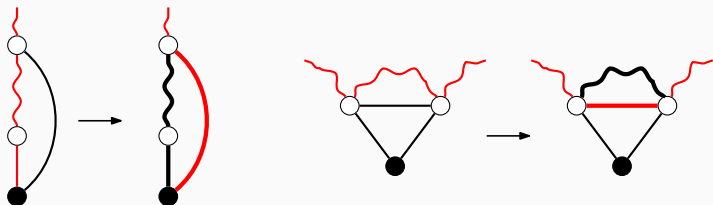
Things that can go wrong



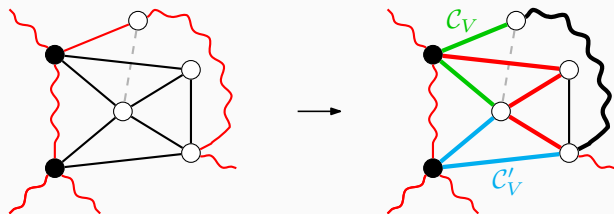
“Distant problem”

Pre-processing

Step 1: Eliminating chords in the subdivision



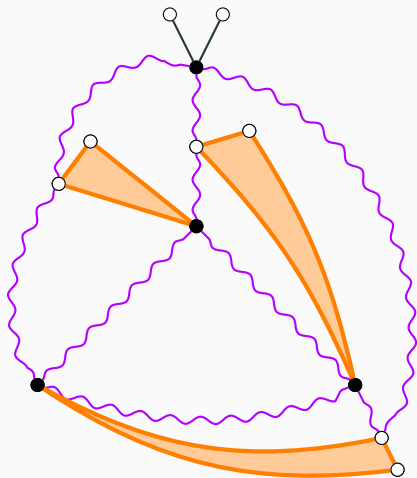
Step 2: Eliminating some configurations by redirection



(4 similar redirection rules)

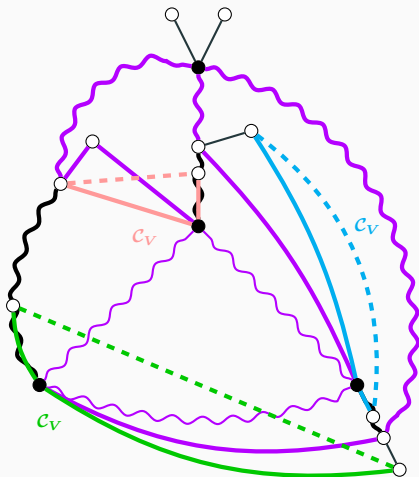
Distant problems

Eliminating **distant problems**:



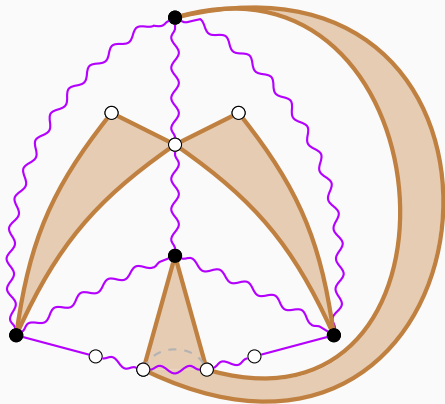
Distant problems

Eliminating **distant problems**:



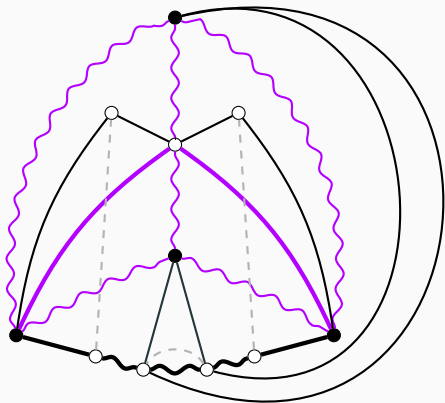
Close problems

Eliminating **close problems**:



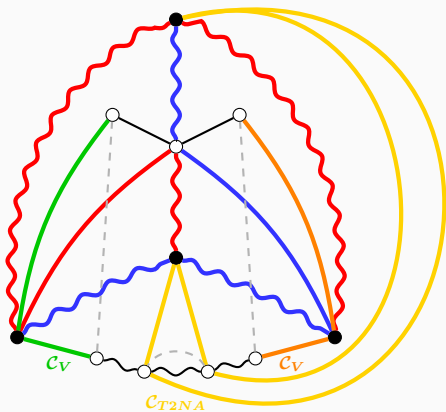
Close problems

Eliminating **close problems**:



Close problems

Eliminating **close problems**:



All the distant and close configurations

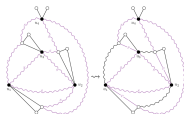


Figure 4.11: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

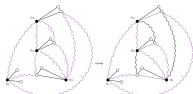


Figure 4.12: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

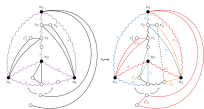


Figure 4.13: Reduction of configuration D_4 .

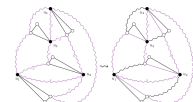


Figure 4.14: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

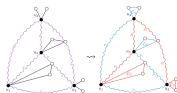


Figure 4.15: A_1 in a case where v_2 and v_3 cause distant problems.

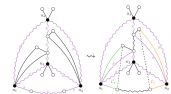


Figure 4.16: A_1 in a case where the length of $v_1 - v_4$ is at least 2.

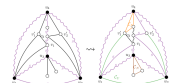


Figure 4.17: Reduction of configuration A_1 .

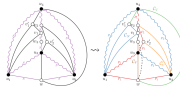


Figure 4.18: Reduction of configuration A_1 . Example of a doubling of \mathcal{P} .

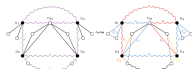


Figure 4.19: Reduction of configuration B_1 .

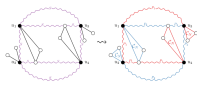


Figure 4.20: A_2 when v_2 and v_3 cause distant problems.

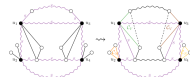


Figure 4.21: Reduction of configuration A_2 .

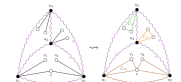


Figure 4.22: Reduction of configuration B_1 . v_1, v_2 may cause distant problems.

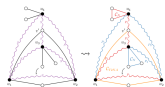


Figure 4.23: Reduction of configuration B_1 .

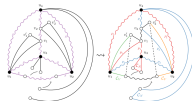


Figure 4.24: B_1 when v_1 or v_2 is $\neq v_1$.

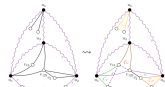


Figure 4.25: B_1 when $(v_2 - v_3) \geq 2$ in \mathcal{P} .

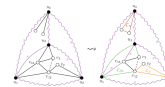


Figure 4.27: Reduction of configuration B_1 . The special vertex v_4 may cause a distant problem as $v_1 - v_4$ or $v_2 - v_4$.

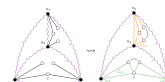


Figure 4.26: B_1 when v_1, v_2 and v_3, v_4 form C_{12} configuration.

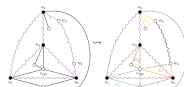


Figure 4.28: B_1 when $(v_2 - v_3) \geq 2$ in \mathcal{P} .

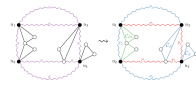


Figure 4.30: B_1 when v_1 causes a distant problem and v_2, v_3 form a C_{12} configuration. Example of a doubling of \mathcal{P} .

All the distant and close configurations

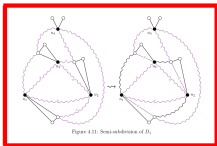


Figure 4.11: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

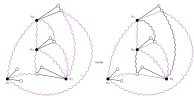


Figure 4.12: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

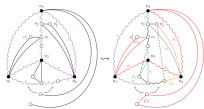


Figure 4.13: Reduction of configuration D_4 .

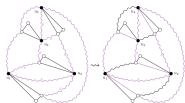


Figure 4.14: Semi-subdivision of D_4 .

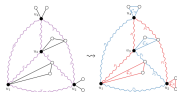


Figure 4.15: A_1 in a case where s_2 and s_3 cause distant problems.

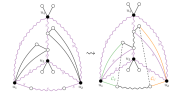


Figure 4.16: A_1 in a case where the length of $s_1 - s_2$ is at least 2.

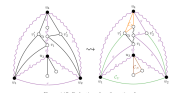


Figure 4.17: Reduction of configuration A_1 .

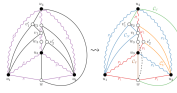


Figure 4.18: Reduction of configuration A_1 . Example of a doubling of \mathcal{P} .

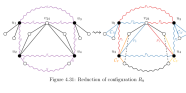


Figure 4.19: Reduction of configuration B_1 .

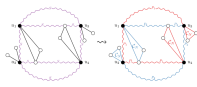


Figure 4.21: A_2 when s_1 and s_2 cause distant problems.

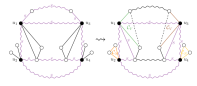


Figure 4.20: Reduction of configuration A_2 .

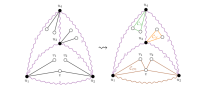


Figure 4.23: Reduction of configuration B_1 . s_1, s_2 may cause distant problems.

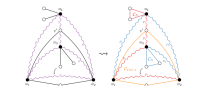


Figure 4.20: Reduction of configuration B_1 .



Figure 4.25: B_1 when s_1 of s_2 is $\neq \emptyset$.

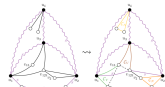


Figure 4.26: B_1 when $(s_1 - s_2) \geq 2$ is 0.

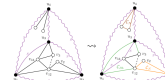


Figure 4.27: Reduction of configuration B_1 . The special vertex s_4 may cause a distant problem as $s_1 - s_2$ of $s_3 - s_4$.

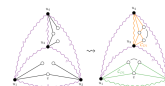


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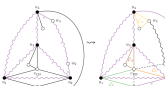


Figure 4.29: B_1 when $(s_1 - s_2) \geq 2$ is \mathcal{P} .

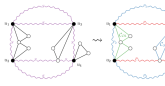
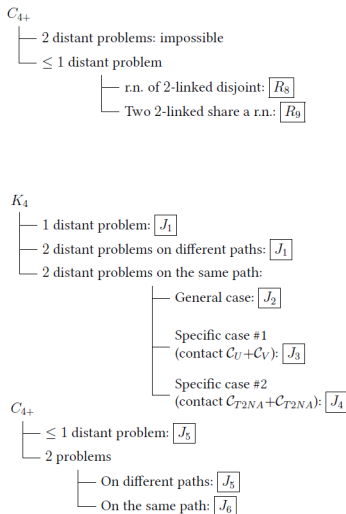
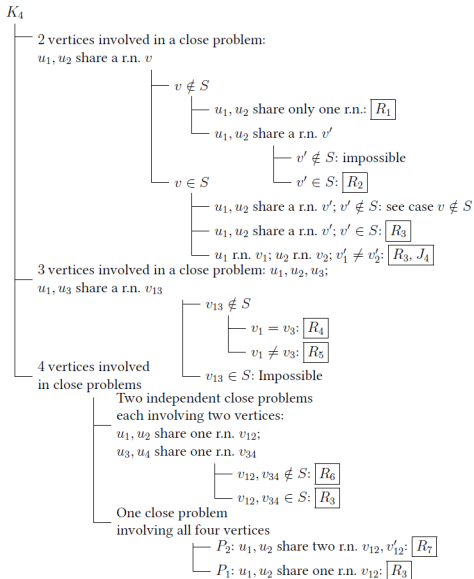


Figure 4.30: B_1 when s_1 causes a distant problem and s_2, s_3 form a C_4 configuration. Example of a doubling of \mathcal{P} .

These configurations cover all cases

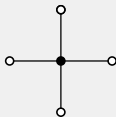


Outline of the proof

Main lemma (*reducibility*) ✓

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on planar graphs **does not contain** a configuration:

- C_I : 2 vertices of degree ≤ 4 ✓
- C_{II} : 4 vertices of degree 5 (with additional connectivity requirements) ✓



C_I



C_{II}

Final lemma (*unavoidability*)

All planar graphs on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contain** a configuration C_I or C_{II} .

Proof on planar graphs

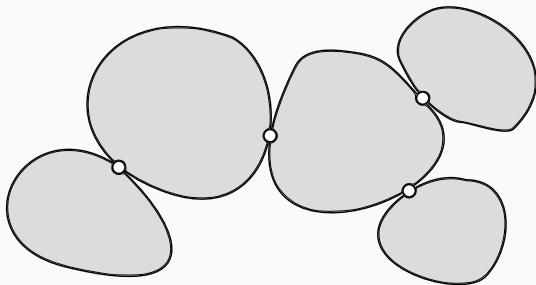
**Part III: There is no minimum
counterexample**

Lemma (*unavoidability*)

Any planar graph on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contains** a configuration C_I or C_{II} .

Goal: We want to find

- a C_I **configuration** (2 vertices of degree 4), OR
- 4 vertices of degree 5 **in a 4-connected component** connected to the rest of the graph with *as few vertices as possible*

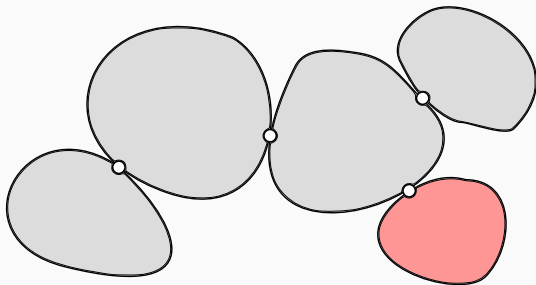


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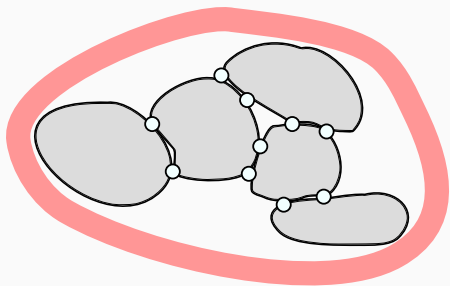


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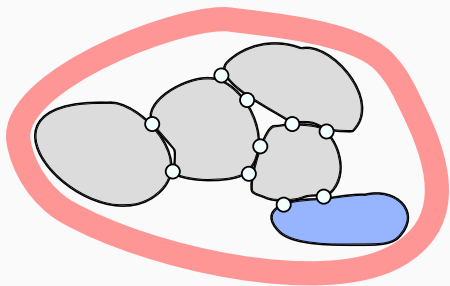


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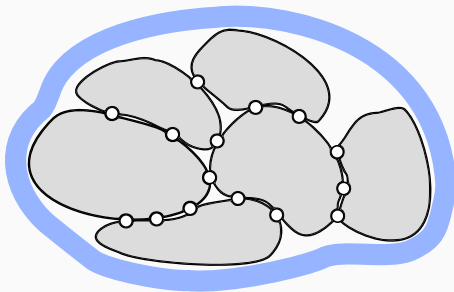


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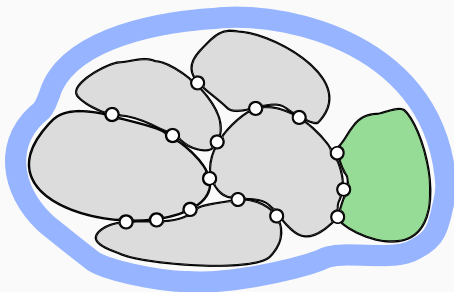


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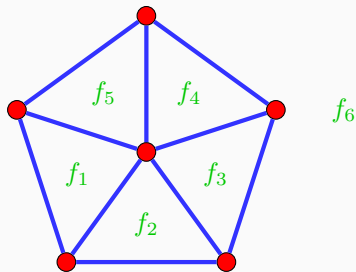


4-connected component

Finding a \mathcal{C}_{II} configuration

Euler's formula (1794)

A connected **planar** graph with vertex set V , edge set E and face set F satisfies: $|V| - |E| + |F| = 2$



$$|V| = 6, |E| = 10, |F| = 6, |V| - |E| + |F| = 2$$

Finding a \mathcal{C}_{II} configuration

Euler's formula (1794)

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Corollary

A connected planar graph with vertex set V , edge set E and face set F satisfies:

$$2 \cdot \sum_{f \in F} [d(f) - 3] + \sum_{v \in V} [d(v) - 6] = -12$$

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$\sum_{v \in V} [d(v) - 6] \leq -12 \Rightarrow$ there are *some* **small-degree** vertices
+ **green** component connected by ≤ 3 vertices



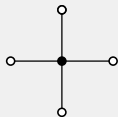
If there is **no** \mathcal{C}_I configuration,
there is a \mathcal{C}_{II} configuration with the right connectivity requirements.

Outline of the proof

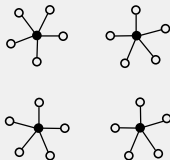
Main lemma (*reducibility*) ✓

A **minimum counterexample** to Gallai's conjecture on planar graphs **does not contain** a configuration:

- C_I : 2 vertices of degree ≤ 4 ✓
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C_I



C_{II}

Final lemma (*unavoidability*) ✓

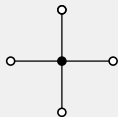
All planar graphs on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contain** a configuration C_I or C_{II} .

Outline of the proof

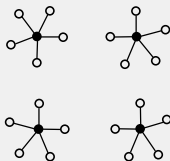
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C_{II}

Final lemma (*unavoidability*) ✓

All planar graphs on $n \geq 2$ vertices **contain** a configuration C_I or C_{II} .

Contradiction \Rightarrow there is no counterexample

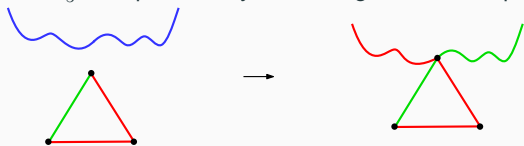
Conclusion and further research

Algorithm

- The proof is **constructive**, except for Yu's construction of a K_4 -subdivision
 - Apply inductively the reduction rules



- Treat K_3 and K_5^- components by combining them with a path



- Finding a rooted K_4/C_{4+} -subdivision: $O(n^2)$ algorithm

[Kawarabayashi, Kobayashi, Reed, 2012]

Polynomial-time complexity

How essential is **planarity** to our proof?

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- Proof built around **Euler's formula** $|V| - |E| + |F| = 2$
→ can be generalized to higher **genus**

$$|V| - |E| + |F| = 2 - 2g$$

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Possible extensions

How essential is **planarity** to our proof?

- Proof built around **Euler's formula** $|V| - |E| + |F| = 2$
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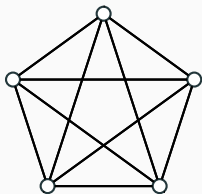
$$|V| - |E| + |F| = 2 - 2g$$

- **Yu's construction** of a K_4 -subdivision requires planarity
- Expected growth of the number of cases

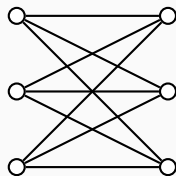
A promising class

Wagner's Theorem [Wagner, 1937]

A graph is **planar** if and only if it has no K_5 -minor and no $K_{3,3}$ -minor.



K_5

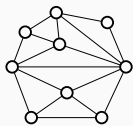


$K_{3,3}$

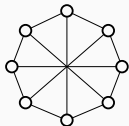
A promising class

Theorem [Wagner, 1937]

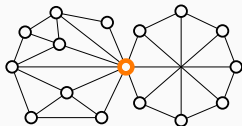
K_5 -minor-free graphs are the graphs built through 0-, 1- and 2-sums of V_8 and (3-sums of planar graphs)



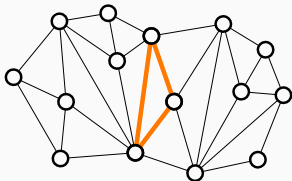
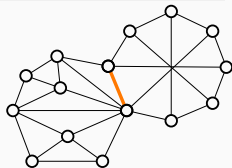
0-sum



1-sum



2-sum



3-sum

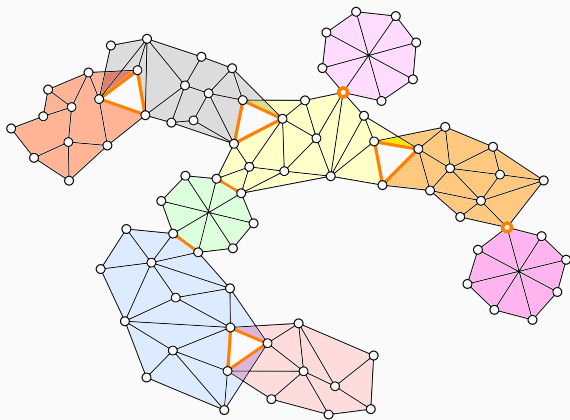
A promising class

A K_5 -minor-free graph:



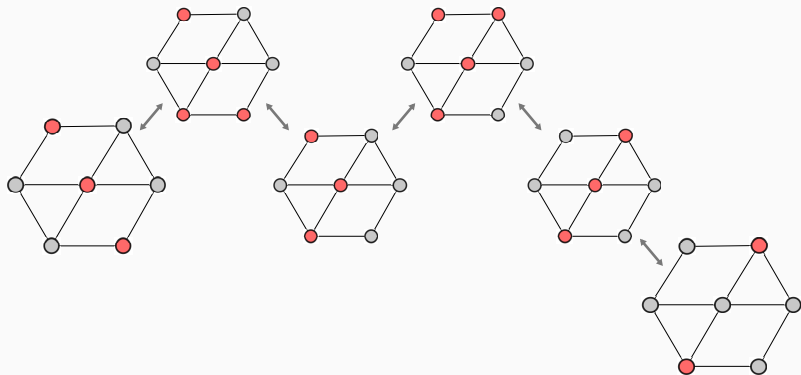
A promising class

A K_5 -minor-free graph:



Dominating set reconfiguration

Model: **token addition/removal** (TAR)



Optimization problem

OPT-DSR (OPTimization variant of Dominating Set Reconfiguration)

- **Instance** : A graph G , two integers k, s , a dominating set D_0 of size $|D_0| \leq k$.
- **Question** : Is there a dominating set D_s of size $|D_s| \leq s$, such that $D_0 \overset{k}{\rightsquigarrow} D_s$?

